

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FILE
memorandum

DATE: November 16, 1994

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: Red Wolf Coordinator, FWS, Asheville, NC

SUBJECT: Monthly activity report - October 1994

TO: Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (ES/TE)
Attention: Mr. Dave Flemming

Following are my accomplishments and other items of interest for the month of October 1994.

Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (ARNWR) Reintroduction - I reviewed and provided input to a briefing for the Regional Director regarding the North Carolina law recently passed to allow landowners in two counties to trap and kill red wolves after notification of the Service. This law becomes effective January 1, 1995, and conflicts with Federal regulations. A revised rule package minimizes the conflicts, but may not be published by January 1, 1995, as it is still in the Solicitor's Office, where it has been since early July. For the Regional Public Affairs Office, I reviewed and provided input on several drafts of letters from the Acting Regional Director to Mr. Fred Bonner, a newspaper reporter, and Mr. James Johnson, the private landowner investigated for killing a red wolf.

Southern Appalachians Reintroduction, Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GSMNP) - I participated, along with other project personnel, in a meeting with Park Service personnel to discuss livestock husbandry options and tentative schedules for releasing additional wolves. The option we agreed to implement is a nursery corral constructed of high-tension electric fencing plus a second-stage pasture with normal fencing for concentrating cows with calves older than 2 weeks. I reviewed and provided input on (1) a draft 5-year plan for the Southern Appalachians and (2) a letter to an individual who killed an unknown canid on his private property; both documents had been prepared by project personnel.

Captive-breeding Project - I completed and submitted to APHIS an animal welfare report for animals that were in captivity in our wild reintroduction projects in fiscal year 1994. I sent a letter to the Metropolitan Park District of Tacoma notifying them of the Service's intent to continue funding the captive-breeding program at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. I reviewed and provided comments to St. Vincent NWR regarding a proposal for a red wolf/coyote interaction study at that refuge. I was informed by the Regional Office that the Wilds in Ohio has once again received a substantial direct appropriation for red wolf work for 1995; I solicited input from the captive-breeding coordinator for possible justified work on red wolves at the Wilds.

General - The red wolf/other Canis interaction policy was completed and distributed to project personnel for immediate implementation. This policy was also sent to Curtis Carley, Glynn Riley, and Ron Nowak for their review and comments. The cover memo also requested that all morphological data on Canis existing within the red wolf recovery program be submitted to me and also requested a volunteer to summarize morphological data from the literature. I responded to at least 11 information requests, only one of which required a written response regarding ways to support red wolf recovery work, opportunities for volunteer work, and advice regarding hybrids as pets. The information requests were filled by sending from 1 (recovery plan) to 24 documents each. I provided comments, via a "Lobo Restoration Support Document" regarding reintroduction of the Mexican wolf, to "Lobo Restoration," a reintroduction support group. I also reviewed but had no comments on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's Draft Mexican Wolf Reintroduction Plan. I received requested input from Ron Nowak concerning museum red wolf specimens sampled by Bob Wayne for the DNA work. Ron also requested that I review a draft account on the red wolf which he prepared for a book on mammals; I provided some corrections with regard to populations and locations. Mike Morse has found documentation of wolf bounties paid out in eastern North Carolina between 1735 and 1789. This documentation was on microfilm of original court minutes available from the North Carolina Department of Archives and History and contradicts local newspaper articles claiming no historical evidence of wolves in the area. I spent a considerable amount of time putting the final touches on an Island Propagation Protocol that will be submitted for printing as a Red Wolf Management Series Technical Report. I have started compiling information regarding the history of personnel changes and budgets for the program as part of a chapter on red wolves for a new book on wolves being developed by Dave Mech.

Following is an update of current locations and numbers of animals.

A. Wild Population

1. GSMNP - The adult male was again recaptured because of his tolerance to inhabited areas and his frequent presence on heavily traveled roads. He will remain in captivity. Thus the population is now six wolves (two males, four females), including the adult female and five pups (two males, three females).
2. ARNWR - An adult male and a female pup died this month. The adult male had a heavy infestation of mange. The Madison Health Lab has informed me that the female pup had ingested some type of pesticide. Another adult female died last month but was not reported in last month's report. A previously unknown yearling was observed and is believed to be a sibling to two male wolves captured and collared last year. One litter of three (two males, one female) that previously had been observed was captured, collared, and released. Another litter (not previously documented) was verified when personnel captured, collared, and released one male and two females and observed a fourth pup. The three pups from this litter that were captured were temporarily placed in captivity and were treated for mange and then released.

These changes bring the totals to 40 to 60 wolves (21 to 23 males, 19 to 26 females, 0 to 11 unknown), including 31 to 43 adults and yearlings (17 to 19 males, 14 to 20 females, 0 to 4 unknown) and 9 to 17 pups (4 males, 5 to 6 females, 0 to 7 unknown).

B. Island Propagation

1. St. Vincent NWR, Florida - A sighting was made of an animal believed to be a pup. Therefore, the population is one to three wolves, including an adult male, possibly an adult female, and possibly one pup (sex unknown).

V. Gary Henry

Attachment

CC:
Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (RD)
Regional Director, FWS, Atlanta, GA (APA)

"Make Safety A Priority Not A Problem"

LOCATION OF RED WOLVES - OCTOBER 31, 1994

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LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
A. WILD POPULATIONS:												
1. Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)	17-19	14-20	0-4	31-43	4	5-6	0-7	9-17	21-23	19-26	0-11	40-60
2. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NP)	0	1	0	1	2	3	0	5	2	4	0	6
SUBTOTAL	17-19	15-21	0-4	32-44	6	8-9	0-7	14-22	23-25	23-30	0-11	46-66
B. ISLAND PROPAGATION PROJECTS:												
1. Bulls Island, Cape Romain NWR, SC	3	2	---	5	---	---	---	---	3	2	---	5
2. St. Vincent NWR, FL	1	0-1	---	1-2	---	---	0-1	0-1	1	0-1	0-1	1-3
3. Horn Island, Gulf Islands National Seashore, MS	1	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	1
SUBTOTAL	5	2-3	---	7-8	---	---	0-1	0-1	5	2-3	0-1	7-9
C. CAPTIVE PROPAGATION FACILITIES:												
1. Graham, WA	22	26	---	48	2	3	---	5	24	29	---	53
2. Sandy Ridge, Alligator River NWR, NC	12	9	---	21	1	1	---	2	13	10	---	23
3. Great Smoky Mountains NP	4	3	---	7	4	4	---	8	8	7	---	15
4. Point Defiance Zoo, Tacoma, WA	4	3	---	7	---	---	---	---	4	3	---	7
5. Alexandria Zoo, LA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
6. Audubon Zoo, New Orleans, LA	3	3	---	6	---	---	---	---	3	3	---	6
7. Beardsley Zoo, Bridgeport, CT	1	1	---	2	3	3	---	6	4	4	---	8
8. Burnet Park Zoo, Syracuse, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
9. Chaffee Zoo, Fresno, CA	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
10. Fort Worth Zoo, TX	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
11. Fossil Rim Wildlife Center, Glen Rose, TX	3	6	---	9	3	2	---	5	6	8	---	14
12. Great Plains Zoo, Sioux Falls, SD	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2

LOCATION	ADULTS AND YEARLINGS				PUPS				TOTAL			
	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total	Males	Females	Unknown	Total
13. Greater Baton Rouge Zoo, Baker, LA	1	2	---	3	---	---	---	---	1	2	---	3
14. Henson Robinson Zoo, Springfield, IL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
15. Knoxville Zoo, TN	3	1	---	4	---	---	---	---	3	1	---	4
16. Los Angeles Zoo, CA	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
17. Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa, FL	2	1	---	3	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	3
18. Miller Park Zoo, Bloomington, IL	1	1	---	2	3	2	---	5	4	3	---	7
19. Mill Mountain Zoo, Roanoke, VA	1	1	---	2	3	2	---	5	4	3	---	7
20. National Zoo, Washington, DC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
21. North Carolina Life and Science Museum, Durham, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
22. Oglebay Zoo, Wheeling, WV	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
23. Pittsburgh Zoo, PA	3	2	---	5	---	---	---	---	3	2	---	5
24. Roger Williams Zoo, Providence, RI	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2
25. Ross Park Zoo, Binghamton, NY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
26. Tallahassee Jr. Museum, FL	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
27. Texas Zoo, Victoria, TX	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
28. Trevor Zoo, Millbrook, NY	1	3	---	4	---	---	---	---	1	3	---	4
29. Western North Carolina Nature Center, Asheville, NC	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
30. Wilds, Columbus, OH	6	7	---	13	---	---	---	---	6	7	---	13
31. Wild Canid Survival and Research Center, Eureka, MO	5	3	---	8	---	---	---	---	5	3	---	8
32. Woodlands Nature Center, Land Between the Lakes, Golden Pond, KY	1	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	2
SUBTOTAL	88	89	---	177	19	17	---	36	107	106	---	213
TOTAL	110-112	106-113	0-4	216-229	25	25-26	0-8	50-59	135-137	131-139	0-12	266-288